Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 15 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Saturday 16 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Friday 15 Dec 2023 at 02:28

Confidence: High for mild, largely settled conditions through the coming days, but lower for details of precipitation from later Saturday due to uncertainties regarding southward movement of rain band, and the introduction of colder air next week.

Headline for Friday 15 Dec 2023: Mainly dry occasionally bright morning. Some drizzle late in the day. Strong winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 15 Dec 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Cloudy	Drizzle	Drizzle
Precipitation probability					
10%	<05%	<05%	20%	30%	30%

Forecast for Friday 15 Dec 2023

Weather: A bright morning with some sunny spells, the best of these across eastern fells. Cloud increasing during the afternoon bringing the risk of drizzle for the late afternoon and evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Beginning 60% in west, 90% in east, lowering later.

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional or periods of cloud, becoming persistent at times from late afternoon, above 450-600m in the west but only small amounts below summit level in the east, before thickening and lowering late in the day. Otherwise visibility good or very good but falling, especially from late afternoon, to several kilometres in drizzle.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Friday 15 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	30/34 SW	29/34 SW	28/34 SW	31/38 SW	36/45 SW	34/42 SW	37/46 SW
600	24/32 SW	24/32 SW	25/33 SW	26/35 SW	29/38 SW	29/39 SW	30/41 SW
300	9/26 W	10/25 SW	11/26 SW	10/28 SW	12/31 SW	13/32 SW	14/34 SW
Valley	7/23 W	8/23 W	10/23 SW	7/23 SW	11/27 SW	13/30 SW	12/29 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-5	2/-5	2/-5	3/-4	5/-2	5/-2	4/-3
600	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	5/-1	6/1	6/1	6/0
300	6/3	6/3	7/4	7/4	8/5	8/5	8/5
Valley	8/6	8/6	9/6	9/7	10/7	10/7	10/7
Freezing Level*	1000m	1100m	1200m	2200m	1800m	1700m	2300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Valley temperatures in east locally plus 2 or 3 Celsius at dawn. Feeling cold on the fell tops despite rising temperatures.

Forecast for Saturday 16 Dec 2023

Weather: Rather cloudy with occasional, mainly light, rain and drizzle, the best of any brighter spells expected across northern and eastern fells.

Maximum wind: Southwesterly 25-35mph, gusts around 60mph over ridges and summits.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance across southern and western fells but nearer 40% in the north and east.

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 450-600m, but more occasional above 600-750m at times in the north and east. Away from cloud, visibility good falling to several kilometres in rain and drizzle.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 7 or 8 Celsius at dawn rising to 11 or 12 Celsius by day
At 800m: Around plus 5 Celsius
Freezing level: Well above the summits.

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 14 December 2023 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:25 Full report: We do daily reports as the ground conditions on the fells frequently change dramatically over 24 hours. However, over the past 24 hours the reverse was true as today's underfoot conditions were similar to Wednesday's with the only difference being that the treacherous verglas (thin ice) that was extensively present above 900m has thawed. With the ground, though, being very wet walkers heading for the high fells on Friday should be aware that verglas could easily return should temperatures fall again. The vast majority of the Lakeland fells are now clear of snow and ice. The only snow patches remaining are located above 750m in sheltered spots and hollows and on predominantly north and east facing aspects. Although few in number, such snow patches consisted of hard, sometimes icy, snow but they are generally easy to avoid. Should your route necessitate crossing them microspikes are strongly recommended especially if on steep or exposed terrain. Owing to their height, location and frozen nature the remaining snow patches are not likely to thaw quickly. Owing to the lack of winter, the main hazard encountered today was the normal one of slippery, wet and greasy rock especially on steep and exposed routes such Striding and Swirral Edges. Despite the milder weather in the valleys, the summit temperature around midday was only just above freezing with the windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) well below at minus 7 degrees C. Thus, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. Temperature: plus 1.7 C, Maximum wind speed 31.4 mph, Wind chill: minus 6.6 C, Average wind speed: 22.3 mph

Issued at: 02:28 on Fri 15 Dec 2023

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